

Minutes of Meeting
Tulare County Flood Control Commissioners

Friday, February 27, 2015, 8:00 AM
Tulare County Resource Management Agency Conference Room

Attendees:

Commissioners present: Fergus Morrissey; Dale Brogan; Mark Larsen; Dan Vink, Chairman; Doug Jackson.

Commissioner(s) absent: Dale West, Vice-Chairman and Walter Bricker.

County representation: Mike Bond and Alfredo Reynoso-Haro with Resource Management Agency (RMA.), Lance Tullis with Tulare County Grants Division and Marit Erickson with County Counsel.

Visitors: Denise England with Tulare County CAO.

Agenda Items:

Item 1. Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM.

Item 2. Minutes of October 31, 2014 meeting:

A motion by Ferguson Morrissey to approve the minutes was seconded by Mark Larsen and approved by unanimous vote.

Item 3. Public comment period: None

Item 4. Staff report on Flood Control District matters:

RMA staff provided an update on the progress on the Juvenile Detention Facility-Cottonwood Creek (JDF Complex), Seville-Sontag Ditch, and Yettem-Button Ditch flood control projects.

Permits have been secured, we have 404, 401 and 1600 permit.

We contacted the Flood Protection Board, it was determined they do not have jurisdiction over Cottonwood Creek, they do not require encroachment permits.

Yettem-Button Ditch: There is a surface water project under way, we are currently working on the feasibility study. The treatment plant will probably be located right at where Sontag Ditch and Button Ditch diverge.

There may be opportunities to locate a Flood Control easement to mitigate the peak flows of both Sontag Ditch and Button Ditch.

The easement could be located north of the surface water treatment plant. The Flood Control easement will probably be 40 acres in size, along Road 144, before the peak flows get to Yettem.

Seville-Sontag Ditch: Two easements are needed, one to the north and one to the south of Ave 384. We have a proposal for a Quad Knopf design, it should be

done fairly quickly. We would like to move forward with this project and probably build something this year.

Juvenile Detention Facility - Cottonwood Creek: Design is at about 80% completion. We are currently shopping for grant funds, our effort will focus on FEMA and probably DWR directly.

Lance Tullis made a presentation on grants funding for the Juvenile Detention facility – Cottonwood Creek.

Proposition 1: A regional allocation of \$34M is available for water conservation and storm water capture projects.

We are waiting for a timeline for funding process information to be available on the categories of Storm Water Management and Groundwater Recharge.

Department of Water Resources (DWR), Flood Corridor Program: The fund sources under this program are; Proposition 13, Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E.

Proposition 1E is a grant funding based on programs that promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat. We have a tiger salamander potential habitat area in this project and it will qualify as one of their funding projects.

Staff: Design was initially including the tiger salamander habitat, mitigation price tag came to be \$750,000, Tulare County had to change the strategy avoiding that habitat area. If we wanted to take the effort of determining it is not a habitat area, it would take us from two to three years and approximately cost \$500,000. All of that considered, the re-design was the most expedient way to get the project approved by the Army Corps of Engineers and Fish and Wildlife.

Chairman Vink directed the County to keep pressing, now that a considerable amount of time on research and design has been spent, and focus on grant funding.

Staff: The County's approach is to let the project drive the mission to secure grant funding, there will be some situations where we will prepare grant applications on days notice.

Commissioner Larsen, suggested the county to focus on the environmental element to make the project more attractive.

Item 5. Consider other business: none

Item 6. Set next Flood Control Commission meeting:

The next Flood Control Commission meeting was set for Friday, April 24, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the main conference room at RMA's office,

Item 7. Adjourn meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.